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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
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COMMENT ON YUGOSLAV REACTION TO TRIESTE ANNOUNCEMENT

Yugoslavia's opposition to the American-British demarche on Trieste was emphatically reaffirmed on 10 October, when Tito warned that Italian "aggression" in Zone A would be met by all measures at Yugoslavia's disposal under the United Nations Charter, including the use of armed force. This threat is obviously designed to intimidate the United States and UK and to disrupt plans for the replacement of allied troops in Trieste by Italian forces.

[redacted] large concentrations of Yugoslav troops are moving toward Trieste from Ljubljana, Fiume and Gorizia to reinforce the Yugoslav garrison in Zone B. Tito himself has stated simply that "units of the Yugoslav Army have already entered Zone B."

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Despite Yugoslav threats to use military force, the emphasis which Belgrade has placed upon the statutes of the Italian Peace Treaty and the principles of the United Nations Charter suggests that, for the present, Yugoslavia intends to emphasize a legalistic approach to a Trieste settlement. This strategy is also reflected in Tito's new proposal that the City of Trieste be placed under the administration of Italy and the remainder of the Free Territory be placed under the administration of Yugoslavia for a period of ten years during which differences can be "mitigated." Such a solution would be totally unacceptable to Rome.

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